



Los Angeles County AUDIT COMMITTEE

Carl Gallucci, Chair
4th District
Louisa Ollague, Vice-Chair
1st District
Dorinne Jordan
2nd District
Genie Chough
3rd District
Lori Glasgow
5th District

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

December 2, 2009

Genie Chough called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. in Conference Room 743, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. A self introduction followed.

Committee Members Present

Louisa Ollague, Vice Chair, First District
Genie Chough, Third District
Dorinne Jordan, Second District
Helen Berberian, Fifth District
Springsong Cooper, First District

Excused Absences

Carl Gallucci, Chair, Fourth District
Lori Glasgow, Fifth District

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 7, 2009 MINUTES

On motion of Genie Chough, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the minutes of October 7, 2009 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

On motion of Springsong Cooper, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the following report:

- Fiscal Review of Psymed, Incorporated (dba Hudson Lyndsey Group Home) – A Group Home Foster Care Contractor (04/08/09)

In response to Dorinne Jordan, Lisa Parrish, DCFS, reported that contracts with Psymed, Inc. have not been renewed and have been placed on a DNU status. The children have been moved: many were placed with their caregiver. Donna Doss, TTC, reported that the process for payment collection has begun.

On motion of Dorinne Jordan, seconded by Lisa Mandel and unanimously carried, the Committee continued the following item to its March 3, 2010 Audit Committee-DCFS Special Meeting:

- Tarzana Treatment Center (Board Agenda Item #35, June 16, 2009) (08/19/09)

REPORTS TO RECEIVE AND FILE

On motion of Helen Berberian, seconded by Dorinne Jordan and unanimously carried, the Committee received and filed the following reports:

- Children's Institute Inc., Foster Family Agency - A Department of Children and Family Services Provider (10/08/09)

Ms. Chough recused herself from discussing this agenda item in that she had been previously employed with the agency.

Elizabeth Howard, DCFS, reported that Exhibit 8.8 of the contract highlights the time frame to report medical incidences. It may be necessary to report them immediately or within seven days. I-Track was implemented 2 years ago and training occurred 1 ½ years ago; the System reports special incidences to all pertinent departments. DCFS meets monthly with the providers and will inquire about additional training at the next meeting. Also, any injury that requires medical attention needs reporting; Lisa Parrish, DCFS, will provide Deputies with a copy of incident reporting criteria.

Lisa Mandel, Third District, requested that DCFS make unannounced visits to monitor the Children's Institute. Ms. Parrish assured Ms. Mandel that if problems persist the Agency will be given a DNR, and if remediation does not occur the contract can end up terminated.

- Fiscal Review of Ettie Lee Youth and Family Services – A Foster Family Agency and Group Home Foster Care Contractor (10/20/09)

Helen Berberian, Fifth District, inquired about the unallowable costs in the Audit Status Report. Mike McWatters, Auditor-Controller, advised that the Report is probably referencing a Worker's Comp issue, however, he will confirm that it is not child related and report back.

Phillip Molina, DCFS, noted that the unallowable expenditures are reviewed twice a week until a final determination is made. The recent issue has been the substantial donations Group Homes receive and how to account for their use. Agencies are reporting that their donations received are to enhance the homes and should more than compensate for the unallowable costs identified by the County. Tom Fagan, County Counsel, advised that the homes attest to using the donated money for unallowable costs only, however, without providing adequate documentation to support their claim. If approved, Senate Bill 84 would require the contract to be modified which would drive the whole issue concerning appropriate and documented expenditures.

(Vice Chair Louisa Ollague joined the meeting.)

Following discussion, the Committee requested an amendment to the contract that regulates private contributions to Group Homes.

- Alpha Treatment Centers Foster Family Agency – A Department of Children and Family Services Provider (10/22/09)
- Group Home Program Monitoring Report - Ha'RE John's Paradise - Ha'RE John's Group Home (11/02/09)
- Group Home Program Monitoring Report - Teen's Happy Home - Teen's Happy Home Group Home (11/02/09)

- Group Home Program Monitoring Report - Sand Hill Group Home, Inc. - Sand Hill Group Home (11/03/09)
- Group Home Program Monitoring Report - Humanistic Foundation, Inc. - New Concept Group Home (11/03/09)

Genie Chough complimented Probation representatives for providing a good report.

- Group Home Program Monitoring Report - Phoenix House of Los Angeles – Phoenix Academy Group Home (11/13/09)

Pamela Pease advised that she will be conducting a site visit this week.

OTHER BUSINESS

DCFS/A–C Joint Monitoring Pilot Project Status - Aggie Alonso, Auditor-Controller, reported that the Auditor-Controller is no longer reviewing new Group Homes and that responsibility has been transferred to the DCFS.

DCFS GH/FFA Fiscal Audits – Ms. Parish distributed the DCFS's Fiscal Audit Status Report.

Department of Children and Family Services' Quarterly Report - Recommendations and Implementation Status – Ms. Parish distributed samples of Group Home monitoring reports which will be posted on the website. Ms. Berberian requested DCFS to attach a user friendly matrix on the back of each report with detailed information. Ms. Mandel requested that the report stipulate ongoing and prior issues. Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation Department, agreed to provide similar reports to the Committee, and reported on several agencies, including Constance House that was placed on DNU. The Committee requested immediate notification when a DNU occurs, and that pertinent supporting documents be provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON THE AGENDA OF A FUTURE MEETING)

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Others in Attendance

Peter Hong, Second District
Lisa Mandel, Third District
Brian Henricks, Auditor-Controller
Don Chadwick, Auditor-Controller
Michael McWatters, Auditor-Controller

Maria Oms, Auditor-Controller
Jim Schneiderman, Auditor-Controller
Judi Thomas, Auditor-Controller
Russ Lingo, Auditor-Controller
Aggie Alonso, Auditor-Controller

Audit Committee-DCFS Special Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2009

Page 4

DeWitt Roberts, Auditor-Controller
Jackie Guevara, Auditor-Controller
Brian Mahan, Chief Executive Office
Tom Fagan, County Counsel
Marilynne Garrison, DCFS
Elizabeth Howard, DCFS/OHCMD
Cynthia McCoy-Miller, DCFS

Lisa Parrish, DCFS
Ali A. Gomaa-Mersal, DCFS
Phillip Molina, DCFS
Donna Doss, Treasurer-Tax Collector
Lisa Campbell-Motton, Probation
Pamela Pease, Probation
Art Mayfield, Probation

Staff

Lee Millen, Board of Supervisors
Nyla Jefferson, Board of Supervisors